



SOUTH DAKOTA COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

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DDC NOTES – MAY 2008

Report of DDC Meeting held in April – The Council met in Sioux Falls on April 30, 2008. The Council funded the 3rd year of a project with the SD Association of Community Based Services and the Division of Developmental Disabilities entitled, “Moving to a Self-Directed System”. This project focuses on Person Centered Thinking Skills, Independent Service Coordination, and the Fiscal Agent Employer Model. Next deadline for Mini-Grant applications is June 30, 2008. Forms are available on the Council’s website or by contacting the Council Office.

Project 8, Governors Child Seat Program One service that many are not familiar with is that the Division of Child Care Services has funding to provide seats, at no charge, for children requiring child seats to accommodate special issues such as needing increased head/torso support, needing to lay down in a vehicle when being transported and other issues. The Division provides the car seat and education on how to install them. In addition to the long term use seats provided to families with children who have permanent conditions, the Division also provides seats to families who need seats for short term use such as a car bed or Britax Hippo for children who may be in a spica cast. Please visit the Division’s website <http://www.state.sd.us/project8/> to find out more information on this program.

The following items may be of interest – inclusion in DDC Notes does not constitute endorsement by the Council.

Free—yes, free—state-of-the-art online courses on inclusive education and successful employment for people with disabilities are available from the Partners in Policymaking website, sponsored by the Minnesota Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities. Parents: check out the education course for yourself, *and* recommend it to the teachers and administrators at your child’s school! The employment course will also be helpful to parents, educators, service providers, and, of course, people with disabilities! They can learn how to jump start their careers and find meaningful employment. Visit www.partnersinpolicymaking.com to take these extraordinary courses and learn about the other free online courses available.

Oregon Perspectives Features Healthy Relationships. The Winter 2008 issue of *Oregon Perspectives*, published by the Oregon Council on Developmental Disabilities, focuses on healthy intimate relationships. To read the issue, go to http://www.ocdd.org/pdfs/OR%20Perspectives/oregon_perspectives.htm

Communicating with Medical Professionals about Autism. The Autism Society of Colorado’s *Source* publication this month includes articles about communicating with medical professionals from a doctor’s perspective and a parent’s perspective. For more information or to download the February issue of *Source*: visit <http://www.autismcolorado.org/applications/DocumentLibraryManager/upload/feb5.pdf>

Look at My Ability Video Online

The Oregon Business Leadership Network and the Oregon Business Plan are co-sponsors of Look At My Ability, a new 2 minute video on the largely under-tapped skilled labor pool of Oregonians with disabilities. The video addresses the work ethic and skills represented by this labor pool. <http://www.obln.org/LAMA.htm>

Interagency Coordinating Council Developed for Emergency Preparedness - The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties oversees the implementation of Executive Order 13347, Individuals with Disabilities in Emergency Preparedness, which was signed by President Bush in July 2004. The Executive Order created an Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) on Emergency Preparedness and Individuals with Disabilities. The ICC is comprised of senior leadership from more than 20 Federal departments and

agencies. Its mission is to ensure that people with disabilities and their specific needs are fully integrated into all aspects of our nation's emergency management system; including mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. The Council has concentrated its work in eight major areas: Emergency Communications; Emergency Preparedness in the Workplace; Emergency Transportation; Health; Private Sector Coordination; Research; State, Local and Tribal Government Coordination; and Technical Assistance and Outreach. For more information about the ICC please visit www.disabilitypreparedness.gov.

FEMA for Kids: Preparing Kids and their Families

FEMA for Kids was designed to educate and inform children and parents about disasters, preparedness, and recovery in a fun and interactive way. The site informs children through several mediums, like stories, games, quizzes, and more. Resources for parents and teachers are also available, including downloadable curriculum and safety information that can be incorporated into the home or classroom. For more information, see <http://www.fema.gov/kids/index.htm>.

****PLEASE NOTE** FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE for People with Developmental Disabilities and Their Families –** The Council has set-aside funding for *BOTH in-state and OUT-OF-STATE travel assistance for the upcoming fiscal year*. A limited amount of funds are available. Guidelines and application forms can be requested from the Council Office or found at the Council's web site. Limited funds are also available for recreation opportunities for people with developmental disabilities.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS AND MEETINGS

June 2, 2008	Sioux Falls – Learning Disabilities Conference
June 4-5, 2008	Yankton – 10 th Annual Yankton Area Mental Wellness Conference
June 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30, 2008	Sioux Falls – Building Bridges to Social Success
June 8-10, 2008	Pierre – Dare to Dream 2008 Conference – What Makes a Full Life?
June 12-13, 2008	Sioux Falls – Lighting the Way Conference (autism)
June 15-19, 2008	Aberdeen – Youth Leadership Forum
June 19, 2008	Pierre – Section 504: The Other Service Option for Students with Disabilities
June 23-27, 2008	Pierre – 2008 First Annual SD Special Education Programs and Transition Services Liaison Project Joint Conference
June 24-27, 2008	Rapid City – Summer Autism Workshop
July 7-8, 2008	Pierre – 21 st Century Community Learning Center Conference
July 18-20, 2008	Lake Preston – Free Family Autism Camp
July 20-22, 2008	Sioux Falls – Midwest Conference on Deaf Education
Aug 15-16, 2008	Sioux Falls – 2008 Partnerships with Families Create Success Conference
Sept 15-16, 2008	Sioux Falls – Fall 2008 Autism Workshop
Oct 4, 2008	Sioux Falls – Buddy Walk
Oct 16-18, 2008	Minneapolis, MN – 26 th Annual Closing the Gap Conference

For more information check out the Council's Calendar of Events on our web site – www.state.sd.us/dhs/ddc .

FUTURE ISSUES OF DDC NOTES

- If you receive this via regular mail and want to receive it by e-mail, let me know and I'll make that change.
- If you no longer want to receive this information, let me know and I'll take you off the list.
- If you know of others who may be interested, please share this with them or have them contact me to be added to the mailing list.

Inclusion of information in DDC Notes is not an endorsement of the activity. If you have questions about any of the information provided, please contact the Council at – Hillsvie Plaza, E. Hwy 34, c/o 500 E. Capitol, Pierre, SD 57501 or 605-773-6369 or 1-800-265-9684 or by email at arlene.poncelet@state.sd.us.

A LITTLE HISTORY OF SD PARTNERS IN POLICYMAKING Applications for Year 17 Are Available

By: Sandy Stocklin Hook

South Dakota Advocacy Services (SDAS) recently celebrated 16 exciting years of Partners in Policymaking and looks forward to Year 17. Applications for the new class of Partners, to start in November 2008, are ready and can be found on the SDAS website – www.sdadvocacy.com. Click on the training button on the left of the page and follow the links to the application. And, while you are visiting the site, be sure to click on the video button and view the Partners in Policymaking video. Applications are also available by calling Sandy Stocklin Hook 1-800-658-4782, email hooks@sdadvocacy.com or writing to SD Advocacy Services, 221 S. Central Ave., Pierre, SD 57501. ***PARTNERS WILL CHANGE YOUR LIFE.***

Partners in Policymaking originated in Minnesota by its Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities in 1987. Partners is an innovative leadership training program designed for adults with disabilities, their parents and family members. The mission of the program is twofold: to learn best practices and expand personal competencies to meaningfully engage policymakers and fully participate in communities of choice.

Since 1987, Partners programs have been implemented in 46 states, the Northern Mariana Islands, Netherlands, Virgin Islands and the United Kingdom. However, since South Dakota Partners began in 1992, it has developed a style, philosophy and dedication that is unique unto itself. South Dakota Partner graduates are part of a growing network of community leaders assisting others and serving on policy making committees, commissions, and boards at all levels.

Partners come from all walks of life and from all over South Dakota. Partner graduates can be found in Sioux Falls to Belle Fourche to Brookings to Rapid City to Aberdeen to Spearfish to Mobridge to Hot Springs to Winner to Vermillion and all points in-between.

Partners resulted from a realization and need. In the early 90's, South Dakota Advocacy Services realized that with limited resources its efforts could not be in all places of the state at all times. It also knew that there was a critical need for training opportunities on the unique challenges of disabilities for adults with disabilities and their families. In 1992, a search was conducted and the Partners in Policymaking model used to secure a grant from the SD Council on Developmental Disabilities (SDCDD). From its first session with 18 participants, Partners began providing a sustainable resource throughout South Dakota to help participants resolve issues in their local communities and to advocate for themselves and others at many levels.

Throughout the years the Partners training has evolved and grown to be recognized as one of the premier training events in South Dakota. The growth is also reflected in the divergent funding sources that contribute to the training. The higher level of funding allowed Partners to expand and train additional participants. Current contributors to Partners in addition to the SDCDD are: Center for Disabilities of Sanford School of Medicine at the University of South Dakota; Children's Care Hospital & School; and, SD Parent Connection. Also contributing are individuals programs of SDAS including Protection & Advocacy Developmental Disabilities (PADD), Protection & Advocacy Individual Rights (PAIR); and, Protection & Advocacy of Individuals with Mental Illness (PAIMI).

Three hundred and eighty individuals have completed Partners in Policymaking training and are changing their communities. They are active PartnersPartners with community organizations and agencies, Partners with federal, state, county and local governments, Partners with schools, Partners with employers and most importantly Partners with each other. They are Partners in Policymaking.

Partners is truly a family. In South Dakota there have been 13 husband/wife teams who have completed the training, 12 parent/child relationships have gone through the training throughout the various years and the program has seen four sibling groups graduate. As with any family, Partners have suffered the loss of 12 inspirational classmates and friends.